How Do You Book a Pet on a Delta Flight?

QUICK ANSWER:

Call +1-855-203-2961 to reserve a pet spot because pet bookings cannot be made online. Spots are limited to 2-4 per flight and fill first-come-first-served. Provide your confirmation code, pet type, breed, weight, and carrier dimensions. Book as early as possible, ideally when you purchase your own ticket. Call +1-855-203-2961 and the agent reserves your spot in about 5 minutes.

FLYING WITH A PET? Call Delta Airlines
+1-855-203-2961 (Available 24/7 | Pet Reservations Are Phone-Only)
Press 0 to skip menu — pet spots are limited per flight
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com/pets

HOW TO RESERVE A PET SPOT ON DELTA:

1. Call +1-855-203-2961 to reserve a pet spot — cannot be booked online, spots are limited

2. Verify your carrier fits under the seat (approx 18x11x11 in, soft-sided best)

3. Get a health certificate from your vet within 10 days of travel

4. International: obtain USDA-endorsed health cert + destination import docs 30+ days out

5. Domestic in-cabin fee: $95 each way | International: $200 each way (varies)

6. Service dogs: submit DOT forms at least 48 hours before departure

7. Check breed restrictions — snub-nosed breeds restricted from cargo

8. Call +1-855-203-2961 with pet type, breed, weight, and carrier dimensions for booking

Why Must You Call to Book a Pet on Delta?

Pet reservations on Delta cannot be made through delta.com or the Fly Delta app. You must call +1-855-203-2961 because pet spots are limited per flight (typically 2-4), the agent must verify your carrier dimensions against the specific aircraft type, breed eligibility must be confirmed, and health documentation requirements vary by route. The phone-only process ensures that each pet reservation is properly validated before confirmation. Call +1-855-203-2961 as early as possible, ideally when you book your own ticket, to secure one of the limited spots.

The limited pet spots per flight fill on a first-come, first-served basis. On popular routes during holiday periods, pet spots can be fully booked weeks in advance. Waiting until the last minute risks finding no availability. Call +1-855-203-2961 the same day you book your own flight for the best chance of

securing a pet spot on the same departure.

What Information Do You Need When Calling?

When you call +1-855-203-2961 to book a pet, have the following ready: your flight confirmation code, pet type (dog, cat, bird), breed, weight of the pet, dimensions of your carrier (length, width, height), whether you are traveling domestically or internationally, and any connecting flights in your itinerary. The agent uses this information to verify eligibility, check aircraft compatibility, confirm the fee, and reserve the spot. Call +1-855-203-2961 with all details prepared for a 5-minute booking process.

If you do not yet have a carrier, the agent at +1-855-203-2961 can advise on the maximum dimensions for your specific aircraft. Purchase a carrier that fits within those dimensions before your trip. Soft-sided carriers are recommended because they compress to fit under seats more easily. Call +1-855-203-2961 before buying a carrier so you know the exact size requirements for your flight.

How Far in Advance Should You Book a Pet on Delta?

Book your pet as early as possible, ideally at the time of your own ticket purchase. Pet spots are limited to 2-4 per flight and fill on a first-come basis. For holiday travel periods including Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring break, and summer, book the pet 2-4 weeks in advance. For regular travel periods, booking 1-2 weeks ahead is usually sufficient but earlier is always better. International pet travel requires booking at least 30 days in advance to allow time for health documentation. Call +1-855-203-2961 immediately after purchasing your ticket to add your pet.

If you are flexible on travel dates, calling +1-855-203-2961 with 2-3 preferred dates allows the agent to check pet availability across multiple options and book the flight with the best availability. Flexibility increases your chances of securing a pet spot, especially during busy periods.

What Happens at the Airport on Travel Day?

On travel day, arrive at the airport at least 2 hours before domestic departure and 3 hours before international departure when traveling with a pet. Check in at the ticket counter (not the self-service kiosk) because the agent needs to verify your pet's health documents, confirm the carrier dimensions, and collect the pet fee if not prepaid. Your pet in its carrier passes through the TSA security checkpoint with you. Remove the pet from the carrier and carry it through the metal detector while the empty carrier goes through the X-ray machine. At the gate, stow the carrier under the seat. Call +1-855-203-2961 if you have questions about the day-of-travel process.

Keep your health certificate, vaccination records, and any international documentation easily accessible in your carry-on rather than in a checked bag. TSA and the check-in agent both need to see these documents. After security, your pet stays in the carrier at all times in the terminal and on

the aircraft. Call +1-855-203-2961 on travel day if any issues arise during check-in or boarding.

Can You Change or Cancel a Pet Reservation?

Pet reservations can be changed or cancelled by calling +1-855-203-2961. If you change your flight, the pet reservation does not automatically transfer to the new flight. You must call +1-855-203-2961 and re-reserve the pet spot on the changed flight, subject to availability. If you cancel your flight, the pet fee is handled as part of the ticket cancellation process. Call +1-855-203-2961 for any changes to a booking that includes a pet to ensure the pet reservation is properly updated.

If your flight is changed by Delta due to a schedule change or cancellation, call +1-855-203-2961 to verify that your pet reservation transferred to the new flight. Automatic rebooking may not include the pet spot, leaving you without a confirmed pet reservation on the rebooked flight. Call +1-855-203-2961 immediately after any flight change to reconfirm pet accommodation.

What If Pet Spots Are Sold Out on Your Flight?

If the pet spots on your preferred flight are full, the agent at +1-855-203-2961 can check alternative flights on the same day, nearby dates, or different routing that may have pet availability. If no same-day alternatives exist, consider whether traveling a day earlier or later accommodates your schedule. For last-resort situations, Delta Cargo may be an alternative for eligible pets. Call +1-855-203-2961 and ask the agent to search across multiple dates and routings for pet-available flights.

To avoid the sold-out situation entirely, book your pet as early as possible after purchasing your own ticket. Some frequent pet travelers book their pets at the time of ticket purchase, treating the pet reservation as a non-negotiable part of the booking process. Call +1-855-203-2961 and make pet booking your first call after confirming your own travel plans.

How Do You Book a Pet on a Connecting Flight?

For itineraries with connections, the pet travels with you in the cabin on all segments. The pet fee covers the entire one-directional journey including connections. When calling +1-855-203-2961, specify your full itinerary including all connecting airports so the agent verifies pet acceptance on each segment and aircraft type. Some regional jets on connecting segments may have smaller under-seat space that affects carrier size requirements. Call +1-855-203-2961 with your complete itinerary for accurate multi-segment pet booking.

Connections with pet travel require adequate time between flights for the connection, as navigating terminals with a pet carrier takes slightly longer than without. Allow at least 90 minutes for domestic connections and 2-3 hours for international connections when traveling with a pet. Call +1-855-203-2961 and mention your connection times so the agent can assess whether they are

sufficient for pet travel.

Can You Book a Pet for Someone Else?

The person flying with the pet should ideally make the pet reservation call to +1-855-203-2961 because the agent needs to verify the passenger's booking, confirm pet details, and explain carrier and documentation requirements directly to the traveler. However, another person can call on behalf of the traveler by providing the traveler's confirmation code, passenger name, and all pet details. Call +1-855-203-2961 with the traveler's booking information to arrange the pet reservation.

For group or family travel where multiple passengers are bringing pets, coordinate all pet bookings in a single call to +1-855-203-2961. The agent can check pet spot availability across all passengers and ensure the total pet count does not exceed the flight's limit. Call +1-855-203-2961 with all confirmation codes and pet details for efficient group pet booking.

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Pet Travel Options at a Glance

Option	Animals Allowed	Fee	Key Requirements
In-cabin (under seat)	Small dogs, cats, household birds	$95 each way domestic	Carrier fits under seat (18x11x11 in approx)
Delta Cargo (checked cargo)	Dogs, cats (varies by breed)	Varies (cargo rates)	USDA health cert, IATA-approved crate
Service animal (trained)	Dogs only (task-trained)	$0 (no fee)	DOT forms 48 hrs before departure
International in-cabin	Small dogs, cats	$200 each way (varies by route)	Health cert, import permit varies by country
Emotional support animal	No longer accepted	N/A	Delta ended ESA policy Jan 2021
Snub-nosed breeds (brachy)	Restricted in cargo	May be denied cargo	Higher risk breed, cabin may be option
Military/govt working dogs	Trained service/ working dogs	$0 with orders	Military orders, handler docs
Connecting flight with pet	Same rules each segment	Per-segment fee applies	Call {ph} for multi-segment pet

How Does Delta Compare to Other Airlines for Pet Travel?

Policy	Delta	American	United	Southwest	Alaska	JetBlue
In-cabin fee	$95 each way	$150 each way	$125 each way	$125 each way	$100 each way	$125 each way
Cabin pet types	Dogs, cats, birds	Dogs, cats	Dogs, cats, rabbits	Dogs, cats	Dogs, cats, rabbits	Dogs, cats
Cargo pet service	Delta Cargo (separate)	AA cargo (separate)	PetSafe (separate)	Not available	Alaska cargo	Not available
In-cabin int'l	$200 (varies)	$150 (varies)	$125 (varies)	Domestic only	$100 (varies)	$150 (varies)
Carrier size (approx)	18x11x11 in	19x13x9 in	18x11x11 in	18.5x8.5x13.5	17x11x7.5 in	17x12.5x8.5
Pets per flight limit	Limited spots	Limited spots	Limited spots	6 per flight	Limited spots	Limited spots

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People Also Ask

Q: Can you bring a pet on a Delta flight?

Yes, small dogs, cats, and household birds can travel in the cabin under the seat in a carrier for $95 each way domestic. Larger pets can travel via Delta Cargo. Service dogs fly free with required DOT forms. Pet spots are limited per flight and require advance reservation by calling +1-855-203-2961. Pet bookings cannot be made online. Call +1-855-203-2961 to reserve a spot.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How much does Delta charge for pets?

In-cabin pets cost $95 each way domestic, $200 each way on most international routes. Delta Cargo rates vary by animal size, route, and crate. Service dogs are free. The pet fee is charged per carrier, not per animal, so two small pets in one carrier pay one fee if allowed. Call +1-855-203-2961 for exact pricing on your route.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How do you book a pet on Delta?

Pet reservations must be made by calling +1-855-203-2961 because the online system cannot process pet bookings. Call at least 48 hours before departure. Provide your confirmation code, pet type, breed, weight, and carrier dimensions. The agent reserves one of the limited pet spots on your flight. Call +1-855-203-2961 as early as possible because spots fill quickly.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What size carrier fits under the Delta seat?

Delta requires carriers to fit under the seat in front of you, approximately 18x11x11 inches for most aircraft. Soft-sided carriers that compress slightly are recommended. The carrier must allow the pet to stand, turn around, and lie down comfortably. Call +1-855-203-2961 and the agent verifies the carrier size for your specific aircraft type.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Does Delta allow emotional support animals?

No. Delta stopped accepting emotional support animals in January 2021, aligning with DOT rule changes. Only trained service dogs performing specific tasks for passengers with disabilities are accommodated at no charge. Psychiatric service dogs that are task-trained still qualify. All other animals must travel as pets with the standard fee. Call +1-855-203-2961 for service dog documentation requirements.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can you bring a large dog on Delta?

Large dogs that do not fit in an under-seat carrier cannot fly in the cabin. They can travel via Delta Cargo in an IATA-approved crate with a USDA health certificate. Service dogs of any size fly in the cabin at no charge with required DOT documentation. Call +1-855-203-2961 for Delta Cargo pet shipping rates and requirements for large dogs.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What health documents do you need for a pet on Delta?

Domestic in-cabin: current vaccination records and health certificate from a veterinarian within 10 days of travel. International: USDA-endorsed health certificate, rabies vaccination, import permit from the destination country, and possibly microchip verification. Requirements vary by country. Call +1-855-203-2961 at least 30 days before international travel for country-specific documents.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Are there breed restrictions for pets on Delta?

Delta restricts certain snub-nosed (brachycephalic) breeds from cargo travel due to respiratory risks at altitude, including Bulldogs, Pugs, Boston Terriers, and similar breeds. These breeds may still travel in-cabin if they fit in an approved carrier. Some destination countries have breed-specific import bans. Call +1-855-203-2961 and provide your pet's breed for route-specific restrictions.

Read our complete guide for more details >

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: In-cabin fee?

A: $95 domestic each way. $200 international varies. Per carrier. Call +1-855-203-2961 to reserve a pet spot.

Q: Book online?

A: No. Pet bookings require calling +1-855-203-2961. Spots are limited per flight. Call early.

Q: Carrier size?

A: Approx 18x11x11 in. Must fit under seat. Soft-sided recommended. Call +1-855-203-2961 for aircraft-specific size.

Q: ESA?

A: Not accepted since Jan 2021. Only trained service dogs fly free. Call +1-855-203-2961 for service dog forms.

Q: Health docs?

A: Domestic: vet health cert within 10 days. International: USDA cert + country docs. Call +1-855-203-2961 for requirements.

Q: Large dogs?

A: Cabin: no (must fit under seat). Cargo: yes via Delta Cargo. Service dogs: any size free. Call +1-855-203-2961.

Related Articles

> What Is Delta Air Lines Pet Policy? [2026 Guide]

> How Much Does It Cost to Fly with a Pet on Delta?

> How Do You Book a Pet on a Delta Flight?

> Can You Bring a Dog in the Cabin on Delta?

> What Are Delta Rules for Pets in Cargo?

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Written by Travel Policy Research Team | Reviewed by Senior Aviation Editor

Sources: delta.com, USDA APHIS, U.S. DOT

This article is for informational purposes only. Always verify current policies directly with Delta Air Lines.